GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3611
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2006
HIGH COURT BENCHES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the benches of High Courts, State-wise;

(b) the authority under which these were set up;

(c) whether the Union Government is considering to set up more benches of High Courts in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(e) whether there is any opposition to the proposal;and

(f) if so, the main points on which the proposal is being opposed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY):

(a) There are 21 High Courts in the country. Out of these, 6 High Courts have 14 Permanent Benches amongst themselves. The details are in given the statement enclosed.

(b) The Benches of the High Courts have been set up under the provisions of Section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, sub-section 2 of Section 31 of the North Eastern Areas

(Reorganisation) Act, 1971, the High Courtat Bombay (Extension of Jurisdiction) Act, 1981 etc.

(c) to (f) Setting up of a Bench of a High Court is considered on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. As a complete proposal has been received from the Government of West Bengal, it is proposed to set up a Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri. However, no such complete proposal has been received from any other State Government.